

Pocahontas-7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber- Date 1/22/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken 1/22/41

Typist Samuel G Smith Date Typed 1/22/41

Source John B Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.
Jake B Simmons. Watoga. "
Edgar L Smith. Watoga. "

Date Filed _____



41 Commerce & Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas CO.
1-Lumber- Up And Down Mills. ✓

About 1872 John Kellison who lived between Buckeye and Watoga and near the mouth of Beaver Creek built an Up And Down sawmill near the mouth of Beaver Creek, he having installed an overshot water wheel in Beaver Creek that made his power.

He sawed for other people as well as himself so it was more or less a custom mill as farmers would take in a load of logs and get a load of lumber, this mill was in operation for many years and many of our older buildings were either made from lumber sawed on this mill or the many other up & down mills that were in operation in Pocahontas County from about 1850 on up to the time when the Circular mill came in to operation.

Another Up & Down mill was owned and operated by James A McClure of near Watoga as he lived where B.C Hayes now lives, he had his mill up Beaver Creek about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and was in operation about the same time as the Kellison mill or a little after. At this day and time the Ox team played a very important part in the development of Pocahontas County as they were used on the farm and also used to log our first saw mills this was particularly true with the McClure mill as they were used to do the skidding also used by farmers to haul logs either on wagons or sleds to the mill to have them sawed and today we find many of our older houses and barns of Watoga and near there built from lumber sawed on one of the up & down mills. The timber cut at that time was mostly soft wood namely White Pine and Hemlock.

Information. John B Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.

Jake B Simmons. Watoga. "

Edgar L Smith. Watoga. "

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 2/14/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 2/7, 8, 12, /41

Typist Samuel G Smith

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Source Maggie & Early Ruckman. Millpointe Filed
J.R Ruckman. Millpoint. W.Va.
Court Records. Marlinton. W.Va.



Force And Industry. Samuel G Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.
Up - And Down Mill

Joseph F And Valentine Cackley owners of the greater part of what is now Millpoint and at that time known as Cackley Town no doubt built the up- and down mill that operated at this place about 1800. In 1834 Joseph & Valentine Cackley sold this mill property to Sampson L Mathews who had the saw mill in operation for several years and in 1865 this property was sold by Ann M Mathews, William H McClintic and his wife Mary Ann to Isaac McNeel who continued to have this mill in operation.

This mill was run by water power from the race that extended from the one that furnishes power to run the grist mill across where the present State Road is located and to the run where the old store house now stands and it was at this point that the Up and Down mill operated by the Cackleys, then by Mathews and lastly by Isaac McNeel who employed Joseph Sharp to operate the mill, he was originally from Elk. All the owners of this mill sawed for themselves as well as custom sawing.

In 1878 Millard F Ruckman and his brother James R hauled logs to this mill with oxen using only the front wheels of a wagon to support the logs the other end dragging on the ground and it was from these logs that the lumber was sawed that built part of the Millard F Ruckman house in which his Widow Eliza Ruckman resides with her son W. O Ruckman. Many of the older houses of Little Levels District were built from lumber sawed on this old mill, and today we find a number of houses in what was at one time Cackley Town that are grouped together because of the Milling operations that took place there ~~and~~ because of the never failing water-power.

This mill was operated until the Circular mill took its place in the 80's.

Information - J. R Ruckman Millpoint. W. Va. Maggie and Early Ruckman Millpoint Court Records Marlinton. W. Va.

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West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber

Date I/17/41

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Source J. Luther McNeill. Marlinton, W. Va.

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A. W. McNeill. Buckeye, W. Va.

Lumber-

In 1888 and 1890 Andrew Wooddell of Stoney Creek sawed for Gay & Peters on Laurel Creek, one set was at the John Adam hacking, one set at the Henry Shearer place and one set on the head waters of Stoney Creek, Gay & Peters had bought this timber and had Wooddell to manufacture it for them.

Auburn Friel was sawyer, J. Luther McNeill was fireman and John Galford did a good portion of the skidding, they had camps at each of the sets and the lumber was all either wagoned or put on sleds and hauled to near the entrance to the fair ground and there put into the Greenbrier River and rafted to Ronceverte where it was shipped to many different sections of the country.

At this time Oxen were used very extensively as they not only did most of the farm work but lots of the saw mills of this time were logged with oxen and after the lumber was sawed it was loaded on wagons or sleds drawn by oxen.

About all the timber cut by and for Gay and Peters was Ash and Cherry and this was cut mostly where it was easily gotten for at this time timber was plentiful and cheap.

Information. J. Luther McNeill Marlinton. W. Va.

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RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry.

Date 3/13.41

Research Worker Samuel GSmith

Date Research Taken 3/7,8/41

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Source EE B.C Hayes Millpoint.W.Va. Date Filed _____

M B Jones Seibert. W.Va.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

About 1904 Miller and Simmons of Pa. were operating a heading mill on Viney Mountain, this was on the Cranberry Viney Mt. road .

This was skidded by Chandler Crookshanks and Richard (Dick) Snedegar the heading was hauled to Seebert by horses and wagons and George Dean moved a good portion of it and was assisted by D.P Sullivan and his team, besides B.C Hayes and his team.

Inf-B.C Hayes. Millpoint. W. Va.

13/41 In 1906 & 07 The Stauffer Bros. of Pa. sawed the timber from the Charles teel place at the top of the Seebert hill, also a set on the Seebert road near the Willis Tibbs now lives. Skidded by I.N Clutter of Lobelia.

In 1905 & 06 John Campbell had a set sawed having bought the George Clendenen timber, this was sawed by James Sydenstricker and skidded by S.J Payne.

1901 & 02 John A Sydenstricker (Big John) sawed for S.J Payne, the mill in what is now Seebert and near where the Post Office now is, the property owned by George Patrick. This was the Sallie Clendenen timber, this was skidded by F.L Smith, David Gladwell and Houston Thomas. The boarding house was on the land now occupied by Charlie Carpenter.

These lumber operations helped greatly with the growth of Seebert as it was on the R R and the shipping point for all the lower part of Pocahontas Co., as today all the lumber that is manufactured in this section is shipped from Seebert.

Information-M.B Jones. Seebert. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Wocahontas County History Date May 22, 1941
Research Worker Juanita S. Dilley Date Research Taken May 14
Typist Juanita S. Dilley Date Typed May 22, 1941
Source Court Order Book No. 3 page 95 Date Filed _____
History of Knapps Creek Community--Enid Harper



County allowance and amount Collected

from tithables.

At a term of Court held on June 6, 1938 the members of the county court proceeded to lay the county levy and made the following allowances to-wit:

Isaac Moore, road claim six days @75 cents--	\$4.50
Samuel Gay, road claim 7 days " "	6.25
Alexander Gillilan, 1 old wolf scalp-----	10.00
Adam Arbogast, " -----	10.00
John Morrison, 3 old red fox scalps-----	3.00
Joel Hill, 3 young red fox scalps-----	1.50
Thomas Wooddell, road claim 2 days -----	1.50
John McNeel, road claim 6 days-----	4.50
also for team and driver 1 day on road----	1.25
Sheriff for public service -----	75.00
Jailor for public service -----	50.00
Mathew Edmiston, Attorney for Commonwealth---	100.00

There were a lot of other claims for road work, wolf and fox
total
scalps, etc. to the amount of \$620.29

"It is ordered that the Sheriff of the county collect
of the 770 Tithables the sum of 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents each and pay the
foregoing allowances."

From-- Court Order Book 3 page 95

Note---This was done each year until the Civil War, after the war sheriffs were ordered to collect the allowances but no mention is made of collecting it from tithables.

Knapps Creek Road--now a part of Route 28

As the valley was improved and fields fenced, the road was kept on the Allegheney side of the valley the greater part of the way. On account of the shade and ice there in winter, parts of it were changed from time to time until the entire road was made on the opposite side of the valley. The last change was made about forty years ago by two colored men, Jacob Keßnel, and Andrew Daugherty of Frost.

The state re-graded the road in 1923 making it much wider to accommodate the increased traffic.

See report for May 10 for a history of Route 28.

From--History of Knapps Creek Community
by Miss Enid Harper